



BURR OAK WOODS CONSERVATION NATURE CENTER is located one mile north of I-70 on Hwy 7, one mile west on Park Road. The Nature Center is open Monday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. **Area Hours: During Day Light Savings 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** No pets are allowed. There is no admission fee. **Phone: 816-228-3766 TDD: 816-655-6268**

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Nature Shop News

Missouri Department of Conservation

Feature Item

Save 20%
September 1 -
October 31, 2006

heritage card discount does not apply



Hunters!

Purchase your fall deer and turkey permits at Burr Oak Woods CNC and receive a free gun lock.



Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center
Missouri Department of Conservation
1401 NW Park Road - Blue Springs, Mo 64015



Nutshell

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center Newsletter

Volume 20 September 2006 Number 09



The Naturalist and the Interpreter

I don't know EVERYTHING about ANYTHING, but I know a LITTLE about a LOT! That is to say that a naturalist is not an expert on any field. Our job is to know a little bit about a variety of topics and present it to you in an interpretive way.

So what is interpretation? The National Association for Interpretation defines it as *"a communication process that forges emotional and intellectual connections between the interests of the audience and the meanings inherent in the resource."* In other words, interpretation teaches you new things in an entertaining way in hopes to inspire you.

A good interpreter has a variety of tricks up their sleeve to captivate the audience and draw them in. Audience participation and hands-on activities are a must.

Successful interpreters teach you new things without you realizing that you are

learning. For example, I recently taught a program about insects to a group of school children. I could have simply listed out that insects have three body parts, two antennae, compound eyes... blah, blah, blah. Instead, I dressed up one of the students as an insect, adding each body part as the rest of the class called them out. Then we sang a silly song to help them remember all the things an insect has. Interpretation gives the same information, but in fun interactive way.

This month we have a variety of programs for you to choose from. Parents of babies can take a discovery hike, preschoolers can go fishing, homeschoolers can learn about night animals, and everyone is invited to our Friday Night Live event, NIGHTFLIERS! Pick a day or two and join us for a first hand look at interpretation and maybe learn a few things too!

Diane Neal, Naturalist



Friday, September 1

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Music in the Woods

Spirit of Independence Concert Band

Begin your Holiday weekend with a wonderful free concert in the woods! Bring your guests and your blanket or lawn chair for an evening of brass band pleasure. Beginning its tenth season, the Spirit of Independence Concert Band has 50 regular performers. We'll be sitting in the open air enjoying the breeze and the tunes. No registration required.

Friday, September 15

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday Night Live

Night Flyers



Fly high with the creatures of the night! Join "Batman" as he leads you through the mysterious world of the night fliers. Your family will descend into the dark underground of Burr Oak Woods portable cave and discover what flies there. Learn why the Whip-por-will says their name over and over again. What exquisite moths grace the night? Discover the silent flight of the owl. Have you ever been nose-to-nose with a live bat! Don't miss this incredible event. There will be games crafts and fun for the whole family. Come out and fly through the night with us!

Helping Missourians connect with nature and conserve it, too!

September Programs

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please call 816-228-3766 **ON OR AFTER THE FIRST OF THE MONTH** to register for the free programs listed. It is important to arrive five minutes before the program time. If you have to cancel, please call as soon as possible so someone on the waiting list can attend.

2 Saturday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Little Acorns: Fishing

Ages 3 – 6

Worms, bobbers, and poles OH MY! The Little Acorns crew is heading to the fishing pond! We will learn a little about the fish of Missouri and toss a line in the water to see what we can catch. Please call to register.

9 Saturday, 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Wild Ones: Pickin' up Pawpaws

Adults Only (20 and up)

Join volunteer naturalist, Frances Mathews to hike the trails at Burr Oak Woods in search of Missouri's delectable wild banana! Please call to register.

9 Saturday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Rockin' & Readin' Nature Tales

Ages 2 and up

Join us for a story hour as we lead you on fantastic nature adventures! We will meet butterflies, birds, mammals, and all sorts of magnificent creatures! We will cross rivers, discover mysteries within the forest, and fly across the prairies. We are only limited by our imagination. Your child(ren) will not want to miss these stories of exploration and discovery. No registration required.

9 Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Monarch Mania

All ages (youngsters 12 and under must be with an adult)

The monarch butterflies are moving to their winter home in central Mexico, and we are ready to tag them! Join us as we capture, tag and release these beautiful butterflies. We will provide the nets and tags for this afternoon of scientific fun. Butterfly crafts and information about starting your own butterfly garden will make this event something the whole family will love! No registration required.

12 Tuesday, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Fall Bird Migration Hike

Adults Only (20 and up)

Our feathered friends are beginning to head south for the winter. Come out to Burr Oak Woods as we search our trails for visiting bird species. Meet at the nature center and we'll head out together. Beginner to advanced birders are all welcome! Binoculars and field guides are available. Please call to register.

12 Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Conservation Kid's Club:

Is Back in Town!

Ages 7 – 10

Hey Kid's Club members! It's time to get back together and plan our 4th annual **Take Your Parents Camping Night!** We will take some time to plan our night, and then hit the trails for a nocturnal scavenger hunt. *Not a Kid's Club member? It's easy call the nature center for more information!* Please call to register.

16 Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Burr Oak Woods Hiking Adventures

Adults Only (20 and up)

We will explore beautiful nature trails at Knob Noster State Park. The trails feature heavily wooded areas, a savannah, lakes and more. Trails are rated moderate to difficult. Wear appropriate walking shoes. Bring bottle water and a snack. Please call to register.

16 Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

September Stroll

All ages

Green leaves are tinged with yellow and red. Squirrels are busy gathering winter food. Monarch butterflies begin their migration. This is a beautiful month to be outside enjoying the natural world! Meet us at the Bethany Falls Trail for a stroll through the September woods. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate walking shoes. Please call to register.



17 Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Youth Deer Hunting Class

Ages 11 – 15

Get out of the city and step into the world of the white-tail deer. Deer hunting is a tradition that has been handed down through the generations. In this two part program we will learn about safety, how to handle a firearm and other wildlife you may encounter, track deer, locate and interpret deer sign, and set up your own deer stand. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn from some of the top experts in our state. Be sure to bring water and a sack lunch if you'd like. Dress for the weather and for going out into the field. Registration is required. We will meet at Lake City Firing Range. Parent is required to stay with youth through lunch. Please call to register, class is limited to 15.

AGENDA:

Lake City Firing Range

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Firearm Safety

Handling a Firearm

Mammals

Lunch

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lunch on your own

Burr Oak Woods

12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

In the Field (signs, tracking)

Deer Stand (location, setup, and safety)

18 Monday, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Wild Ones:

Ol' Fashioned Ice Cream Social

Adults Only (20 and up)

Persimmon season is just around the corner! Join us as we make homemade ice-cream and embellish it with one of our favorite wild edible fruits...the persimmon! We will learn how to identify the persimmon tree before the tree ripens, so that we will be ready...please call to register.

19 Tuesday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

or 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Little Acorns: Fishing

Ages 3 – 6

Worms, bobbers, and poles OH MY! The Little Acorns crew is heading to the fishing pond! We will learn a little about the fish of Missouri and toss a line in the water to see what we can catch. Please call to register.

October 21, 2006



Women in the Outdoors

in cooperation with The Wild Turkey Federation, South River Gobblers Chapter

The kids are back in school and you are ready for a break. Did you ever wish you knew how to fish, safely shoot a gun, or canoe down one of Missouri's Ozark streams? How about cook over a campfire with a dutch oven, take great nature photographs, or participate in a letterboxing adventure plus more. If this sounds interesting to you this is a full day adventure just for you!

Bring a friend to make this a special day the two of you can share together. We have enthusiastic, patient instructors skilled at teaching both beginners and those that may want to tweak their skills. This day is for everyone! You won't want to miss it! Call 816/228-3766 for a Registration Form or for more information.

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Optional Wild Game Dinner 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Registration:

Regular Registration: \$50

(Postmarked by October 1)

Late Registration: \$55

(Postmarked after October 1)

20 Wednesday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

or 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Homeschool: In the Dead of Night

Ages 3 – 5 and 6 – 8

For centuries, mystery has surrounded night. Light represents life, dark represents death. But there is magic in the night. This is a world where we depend less on our sight and more on our hearing, smell and touch. Come explore the creatures of the night in our transformed auditorium during this special starlit safari. Please call to register.



20 Wednesday, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

or 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Homeschool: In the Dead of Night

Ages 9 – 11 and 12 and up

For centuries, mystery has surrounded night. Light represents life, dark represents death. But there is magic in the night. This is a world where we depend less on our sight and more on our hearing, smell and touch. Come explore the creatures of the night in our transformed auditorium during this special starlit safari. Please call to register.

21 Thursday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

or 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Little Acorns: Fishing

Ages 3 – 6

Worms, bobbers, and poles OH MY! The Little Acorns crew is heading to the fishing pond! We will learn a little about the fish of Missouri and toss a line in the water to see what we can catch. Please call to register.

22 Friday, 11:00 – Noon

The All New: Babes in the Woods

Infant – 2

We're trying something new! Join Naturalist Diane Neal and her daughter Amanda on a discovery hike on the Missouri Tree Trail. As we stroll through the forest we will look and listen for wildlife and learn how to make nature a part of our children's lives from the beginning. Pack a lunch if you like and join us at the picnic tables after the hike for a relaxing meal and conversation. For moms and dads with children ages birth to 2 years old. Please call to register.

23 Saturday, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

In Celebration of Autumn!

Families with children ages 5 and up

Let's celebrate the first day of autumn together by exploring the gorgeous Habitat Trail. I wonder what trees will have leaves that are turning? What is a Pawpaw? Are persimmons good to eat in September? Join us for a fun interpretive hike. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Please call to register.



SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS AT LAKE CITY RANGE

28900 E Argo Road

Grain Valley, Mo 64029

816-229-4448

www.mdc.state.mo/areas/ranges/lakecity

We are pleased to let people know about several of the programs offered by the Missouri Department of Conservation's Lake City Range. Be sure to call **816-229-4448** for information and to register for these programs.

6 Wednesday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Youth Trapper Education

7 Thursday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Youth Trapper Education II

16 Saturday, 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Ladies Firearm Safety Ph.II

28 Thursday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tree Stand Safety

29 Friday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Shotgun Patterning

24 Sunday, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Missouri Conservation Frontiers:

Monarch Tagging

All ages

The monarch butterflies are moving to their winter home in central Mexico, and we are ready to tag them! Come help us capture, tag and release these beautiful butterflies. The tags are harmless to the butterfly. Tagging helps us to learn more about their incredible migration. Please call to register.



For more information call us at 816-228-3766 or visit our web site at <http://mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/burroak/>